



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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Situation Report Tornado Storms January 9, 2008, 10 a.m. *Final Report*

SUMMARY

A cold frontal boundary stretching from the Canadian Maritimes to the Gulf of Mexico has slowly pushed across the State of Missouri. Clashing with the unusually warm moist air, it generated several lines of powerful thunderstorms that have lightning, large hail and devastating tornadoes. These storms killed at least two Missourians and the reported number of injuries is around 30. Many homes have been destroyed or damaged and some jurisdictions have opened shelters. The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has requested that joint state/federal preliminary damage assessments take place for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance and Individual Assistance programs. Three SEMA/FEMA teams will begin PDA's for Public Assistance at various locations today (Jan. 9th).

County Reports:

Barry County – No deaths, four minor injuries. A mobile home park was destroyed in Purdy. About 20 mobile homes destroyed in the county, four houses with moderate damage. Three businesses were damaged. Two shelters were opened, but have been closed. Significant flooding reported in or near Cassville and Monett. Thirteen of 25 road districts reporting debris on roads, with damage to some bridge approaches and culverts. **All power has been restored. Two families are out of their homes because of flooding. One primary bridge is totally out – emergency funding will be needed to replace. There is estimated \$300,000.00 in public damages (including the bridge). Damage assessment will be completed this afternoon.**

Christian County – County EMD reports less than 10 homes in Highlandville area with major damage, with 6-8 homes elsewhere with moderate to major damage. Many secondary roads and low water crossings blocked due to flooding. County and Red Cross continuing with damage assessments and volunteers are also doing individual needs assessments.

Dallas County – Widespread damage to some roads and bridges **estimated to be \$500,000.00 by Dallas County Road and Bridge. Three barns destroyed valued at \$25,000.00** No structural damage or injuries reported.

Douglas County – Damage assessment continuing. Some out buildings destroyed. No power outages. Opened storm shelter yesterday and had over 100 people in it. **Road crews are out clearing roads. The county continues with damage assessments today.**

Dunklin County – Some wind damage near Cardwell today. No injuries reported. **County officials report 6-7 homes damaged from wind late yesterday (Jan. 8th).**

Gasconade County - The Southern part of the county had minor to moderate flooding. Bland was reported to have received $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch size hail. Owensville Fire Dept. responded to a 1st alarm fire at the Gasconade Co. R-2 High School. The school was struck by lightning. Fire fighters were able to contain it to the electrical room and the school is operational. There were power lines down within the Owensville Fire response area. No known power outages or other damage to report at this time.

Greene County – One confirmed death and one injury. City of Springfield reports 8-10 buildings with severe damage and/or destroyed in downtown Springfield along or near the Chestnut Expressway. Strafford suffered at least 30 homes and businesses destroyed. One shelter has been opened in Strafford with a population of 25. All roads are open in Springfield. Some roads in the Strafford area are closed to due to wires in the road. Republic reports 27 homes, three businesses and its school were damaged.

Jasper County – One mobile home destroyed and one mobile home damaged.

Laclede County – Damage heavy in Conway. Several people injured critically. Lots of agricultural and livestock damage. 12 reported injuries, 4-6 were transported to hospitals. Power has been restored in Lebanon and only about 20 customers without power around the county. Damage assessment about 50% complete – 20 buildings destroyed including nine homes and one business. Six homes with major damage and 25 people seeking shelter at this time.

Lawrence County - No injuries reported. About 20 homes with light to moderate damage, and some dairy barns reportedly were heavily damaged. Road damage almost cleaned up.

Maries County - A tornado touched down in the Vichy area. Damage is mostly confined to around that area. One trailer was destroyed and the man living there was injured and taken to a Jefferson City hospital. Approximately 35-40 properties (homes and out buildings) have moderate damage. At least 8 of these properties were homes and four of them are not habitable. Insurance agents have been out and people are waiting for the adjustors to come. Can't get into all the areas due to flooding over low water crossings. The tornado went through the Vichy airport and damaged 4 planes. Considerable debris has been pushed off the roads. Stream flooding over slabs with some road wash outs reported.

McDonald County – 10-15 structures damaged including farm buildings. Flash flooding in Noel and Southwest City – four water rescues due to flooding. Most power is on. South of Pineville is where most of the houses that were damaged. Two shelters were opened and remained opened this morning.

Morgan Co. – Some reports of hail damage to cars and homes. The hail was golf ball size.

Osage Co. - No major damage reported. There were three county roads that had some tree limbs down.

Phelps County – 40 homes reported damaged. 8-10 outbuildings and about 25 head of cattle killed most of this around the northwest portion of the county around the Dixon area. Shelter was opened, but most people went to friends and relatives and the shelter has shut down.

Pulaski County – Tornado touched down east of Dixon. Two homes were destroyed. Five critical injuries were taken to Phelps County Memorial Hospital. Some reports of localized flooding.

Stoddard County – One home heavily damaged due to tornado or high winds today. About 200-250 customers were without power. No injuries reported.

Taney County – Couple of mobile homes were damaged. A condominium in Branson was damaged.

Texas County – City of Houston reports some structural damage around town and roof damage at City Hall. A hangar at the airport was destroyed. No injuries reported. Damage assessment is continuing.

Webster County – One fatality confirmed at this time and about four injuries; three were considered critical. Some walking wounded who refused treatment. 22 buildings destroyed in Niangua area- 10 of those are houses. 6 homes confirmed destroyed and 50 homes damaged primarily in Marshfield. At least three tornadoes have been confirmed as touching down in the northern part of the county. Localized flash flooding has been reported primarily in southern portions of the county. **About 50 homes were destroyed and even more outbuildings. All power is back up to those that can receive the power. National Weather Service is investigating the number of tornadoes and the number of touchdowns. Several bridges and low-water crossings have been damaged or destroyed. Lots of livestock damage/destroyed. Search and Rescue was completed at 4 p.m. yesterday. Damage assessment is ongoing with FEMA/SEMA teams. Shelter was open last night without any people requiring their services.**

Wright County – No deaths or injuries. No major damages to homes, only outbuildings. Some bridge problems and road washouts reported. **Lots of straight line wind damage. Over \$200,000.00 worth of damage primarily homes and outbuildings. National Weather Service personnel are enroute to investigate. All power has been restored.**

Weather

National Weather Service – Springfield indicates flood warnings will continue this morning over portions of central and southern Missouri due to heavy rains, which occurred earlier this week. The hazardous weather outlook indicates nothing of significance over the next seven days. Highs should be in the 40s for the remainder of the workweek. High temperatures should be in the 30s for Saturday and Sunday.

State Agencies

SEOC activated to Level One and will be collecting damage assessment information to help support local jurisdictions. **Individual Assistance teams are being dispatched today to survey the damage counties.**

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services – DHSS checked with nursing homes and everything was in order. Assisting Webster County in making sure enough tetanus vaccine is available for responders there.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources – Working with MO Department of Agriculture on a joint news release related to animal mortality issues because of the storms. DNR is preparing to assist local jurisdictions with debris-related issues and questions. **DNR continues outreach in the affected counties.**

Missouri Division of Fire Safety – Reg. D Mutual Aid Coordinator and Division personnel responded to Greene Co EOC after storm damage report Monday to assist local jurisdictions and maintain contact with Division personnel in Jefferson City. Mutual Aid Coordinators in Regions H and A were notified of situation and placed on standby.

Missouri Public Service Commission- Power outages throughout the night, but spotty in location. Much of the power had been restored by this afternoon, with only a few spotty outages still being reported. Missouri Rural Electric Cooperatives report only about 400-500 customers now without power. **Empire**

still has 59 meters without service in the Strafford area and they expected to be connected this morning. Missouri Electric Coops reported everybody has been re-energized that can be.

Missouri State Highway Patrol – Dispatched officers throughout Troop D and Troop I for assistance to local jurisdictions.

Missouri State Water Patrol – MSWP has sent three officers to Conway, Missouri to assist local officials. Sent an additional officer to Purdy (Barry County) to assist local officials. Officers have returned to normal duty, but are available for assistance.

Missouri Department of Social Services – DSS is following up on requests for shelters to be set up in affected areas. **Working on water and meals for Webster County.**

Missouri Dept of Transportation – There were 3 incidents on I-44 Monday evening, but those cleared fairly quickly. There are no major road closures at this time. There are numerous flash flood closures on minor routes and a few minor routes with debris. Traveler information map for real time information available at: <http://maps.modot.mo.gov/travelerinformation/TravelerInformation.aspx>.

Missouri Information Analysis Center – Ramped up and provided overnight situational reports to key Missouri officials.

Non Government Organizations/Volunteer Organizations:

AmeriCorps has 25-28 people staged in Southwest Missouri with chainsaws, etc. to assist in debris clearance. Teams have been stationed in Greene and Webster Counties to provide assistance, with two more teams on stand-by. **Americorps has 12 people in the field and another 12 on standby in Salem.**

American Red Cross is coordinating shelter service throughout the State. They have a lot of people out doing damage assessment. They are responding to several new requests for assistance, including from the Dexter and Rolla areas. **ARC reports statewide 25 homes destroyed, 75 homes major damages, 150 minor damaged homes. Only shelter still open is the one in Marshfield (Webster County). There are other areas yet to report, and some jurisdictions are finding pockets of damages.**

Salvation Army is monitoring the situation.

United Way – 211 – Have not received any calls as of this report. Please note – Not all phone systems have the 211 available, but people can reach them by calling 800/427-4626.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100 from 7:30am – 4:30pm, Mon-Fri. After hours emergency calls can be made to the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.

Please note: This is the final situation report for this event.